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Book Review

Compte rendu de livre

A Color Handbook: Skin Diseases of the Dog and Cat, 3rd edition

Heinrich N, Eisenschenk M, Harvey R, Nuttall T. CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida, USA. 2019. 296 pp. ISBN: 9781-1383-0870-1.

The approach to dermatology cases can be daunting. Skin can only react in a limited number of ways, and with these limited manifestations, a dazzling array of skin diseases are represented. Good dermatological books, like this color handbook, provide a cartographer's guide directing the general practitioner through the landscape of lesions that represent dermatological disease.

This handbook is arranged into 13 chapters, organized by major symptoms (alopecia or pruritus), by lesion site (nasal dermatoses or nail diseases), or by age of onset (juvenile dermatoses).

The 350 color photographs are a useful accompaniment to the text, though, there are a few diseases without photographs. For example, it would have been beneficial to have a photograph of cutaneous inverted papillomas.

Another strength of this book are the many tables, such as the table on the differential diagnoses of alopecia, organized by whether the hair loss is focal to multifocal or symmetrical to diffuse. This is a helpful starting point when examining a patient with hair loss to determine what testing should be prioritized.

Since skin conditions involve reaction patterns that can be similar across diseases, there are lists of differential diagnoses for each disease. For instance, pemphigus foliaceus, exfoliative staphylococcal pyoderma, and *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* are the 3 conditions in which acanthocytes can be seen on cytology.

Advice is provided on ideal biopsy technique. For example, for bullous pemphigoid the epidermis should be included in the biopsy versus ulcers or erosions.

Lesion terminology is precise. The terms folliculitis or furunculosis are used to describe photographs of lesions, which makes it easy to apply to the practitioner's own cases.

My overall impression is that this book is filled with practical tips that could be applied the next day at your practice. An example is to consider hair plucks for mite checks on the periorcular and interdigital skin; sites in which skin scrapings would be painful.

In my opinion, the core books in veterinary dermatology are Muller and Kirk's *Small Animal Dermatology* and Hnilica and Patterson's *Small Animal Dermatology, A Color Atlas and Therapeutic Guide*. This book, however, provides a helpful adjunct to the conscientious general practitioner.

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